

**U.S. Department of Agriculture**  
**FY 2013 Report of Conferences over \$100,000**  
**As required by Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M-12-12**

CONFERENCE NAME	AGENCY	TOTAL EXPENSES	LOCATION	DATE	MISSION IMPACT	USDA PARTICIPANTS
Codex Committee on Food Hygiene	FSIS	\$339,508	New Orleans, LA	11/10/2012 - 11/16/2012	<p>Codex Alimentarius is the global reference point for national food control agencies and the international food trade. Food safety and quality standards are developed by Codex committees to protect consumer health and promote fair trade practices. The United States is responsible for hosting the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (CCFH) in conformance with UN requirements. The CCFH develops basic provisions on food hygiene that are applicable to all food; endorses provisions on hygiene that have been prepared and referred from the commodity committees; drafts provisions on hygiene applicable to specific food items or food groups; and considers microbiological risk management matters in relation to food hygiene, food irradiation, and the risk assessment of the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization (FAO/WHO) Joint Expert Committee on Microbiological Risk Assessment. The 44th Session of the CCFH completed work on a major new text, <i>Principles and Guidelines for the Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria Related to Foods</i>, as well as an annex on berries to the <i>Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables</i>. The Committee continued to work on guidelines for the control of two zoonotic parasites in meat: <i>Trichinella spp.</i> and <i>Cysticercus bovis</i> and on a <i>Code of Hygienic Practices for Spices and Dried Aromatic Herbs</i>. In keeping with its focus on food hygiene, CCFH began work on a Code of Hygienic Practice for Low Moisture Foods.</p> <p>The venue selected for the 2012 CCFH session accommodated approximately 260 delegates from 90 countries. The venue cost included appropriate conference space for the plenary sessions of the committee, as well as office space and equipment for the U.S. and Codex secretariats, meeting rooms for the various delegations, and printing and duplication of all documents. The cost also included simultaneous interpretation in three languages during the plenary sessions and translation of all documents in the working languages of Codex. Non-USDA employees and Delegates from other countries were responsible for their own travel expenses, including transportation and lodging.</p>	8
Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods	FSIS	\$345,481	Minneapolis, MN	8/24/2013 - 8/30/2013	<p>Codex Alimentarius is the global reference point for national food control agencies and the international food trade. Food safety and quality standards are developed by Codex committees to protect consumer health and promote fair trade practices. The United States is responsible for hosting the Codex Committee on Residues of Veterinary Drugs in Foods (CCRVDF) in conformance with UN requirements. The CCRVDF develops standards related to residues in foods, including maximum residue limits and codes of practice as may be appropriate, and methods of analysis and sampling. At its 2013 session, the Committee adopted performance criteria for multi-residue methods to promote food safety and enforcement of maximum residue limits and initiated new procedures to encourage faster adoption of science-based standards and new technologies.</p> <p>The CCRVDF session was attended by 200 foreign delegates from 61 countries and 11 observer organizations. The selected venue for CCRVDF meeting must be in a city with international flight connections and have at least 10,000 square feet of plenary conference room space, executive meeting rooms, and secretariat offices, as well as lodging capacity for the delegates. The venue cost included appropriate conference space for the plenary sessions of the committee, as well as office space and equipment for the U.S. and Codex secretariats, meeting rooms for the various delegations, and printing and duplication of all documents. The cost also included simultaneous interpretation in three languages during the plenary sessions and translation of all documents in the working languages of Codex. Non-USDA employees and Delegates from other countries were responsible for their own travel expenses, including transportation and lodging.</p>	5
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$684,989</b>				<b>13</b>